

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03066 122247Z

62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 DRC-01 /083 W

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R 122155Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7799

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3066

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN REACTION TO CHANGES AT THE TOP IN U.S.

1. PRPSS REACTION HERE TO PRES. FORD'S ASSUMPTION OF THE PRESIDENCY WAS CHARACTERIZED BY LEADING DAILY "LA NACION'S" TITLE OF ITS AUGUST 10 EDITORIAL, "THE DEFEAT OF A POLITICIAN, THE TRIUMPH OF A NATION." THE EDITORIAL, ONE OF THE LONGEST "LA NACION" HAS EVER RUN, STRESSES THE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE INSTITUTIONS, ESPECIALLY THE SUPREME COURT, THAT ULTIMATELY DECIDED PRESIDENT NIXON'S FATE.

2. HEAVY WIRE SERVICE COVERAGE OF THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO BE ON FRONT PAGES AND PRESIDENT FORD'S INTEREST IN LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS IS HIGHLIGHTED.

3. THE COSTA RICAN MAN ON THE STREET IS STILL A BIT INCREDULOUS OVER THE FALL OF MR. NIXON BECAUSE OF SUCH AN EPISODE AS WATERGATE. A COMMON REMARK HEARD HERE IS THAT A LATIN LEADER WOULD NOT HAVE MET HIS DEMISE FOR SUCH A REASON. MANY COSTA RICANS EVEN FEEL A SLIGHT TOUCH OF EMBARRASSMENT OVER MR. NIXON'S RESIGNATION AND THE

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03066 122247Z

INEXORABLE PRESSURES THAT BROUGHT IT ABOUT BECAUSE,

AS PRESIDENT, PEPE FIGUERES IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE DONE MUCH  
WORSE AND FELT NO PRESSURE TO CUT SHORT HIS TERM IN OFFICE.

4. IN SHORT, IN THE EYES OF COSTA RICANS, THE  
UNITED STATES HAS AGAIN REACHED THE KIND OF A  
PINNACLE THAT MOST COSTA RICANS RESERVE FOR IT.  
IT COULD ONLY HAPPEN IN THE UNITED STATES THEY SAY.  
LANE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SANJO003066  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740221-0111  
**From:** SAN JOSE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740855/aaaabvan.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COSTA RICAN REACTION TO CHANGES AT THE TOP IN U.S.  
**TAGS:** PINT, CS, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (NIXON, RICHARD M)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005